(d) whether Government are considering to extend the term of Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (d) Since the Commission for Economically Backward Classes could not complete the assigned work in the stipulated period of one year, it has been decided to reconstitute the Commission.

Drug addiction among children

†727. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a recent survey it has been found that 24 per cent of the children between the age group of 12 to 14 years are drug addicts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures Government are taking to get rid of the problem;

(d) whether Government would take stringent and concrete steps against those who are providing drugs to students; and

(e) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN) (a) and (b) As per the recent survey conducted by the Government of India in collaboration with United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime the prevalence of drug use in sample size of 8,587 within the age group 12-18 years was as follows:

Cannabis	3.0%
Opiates	0.1%

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The measures taken are as follows:

(i) Dissemination of information on various issues relating to drug abuse prevention through different sources of media like electronic & print media.

(ii) Assisting voluntary organizations for running awareness programmes.

(d) and (e) The Government has taken steps to curb drug trafficking in the country including the sale of drugs in the vicinity of any school/ educational institution by imposing higher than the minimum punishment in such offences as per Section 32 B of the Narcotic Drugs and Pscyhotropic Substances Act, 1985.

Rehabilitation of mentally challenged persons

728. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the NGOs in the National Capital Territory of Delhi receiving Government aid engaged in rehabilitation of mentally challenged persons;

(b) the amount of aid given to each NGO during the last three years alongwith the number of mentally challenged persons taken care of by them; and

(c) the details of the training/therapy being given by these organisations?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Information has been given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) These organisations give training in special education, physiography, behaviour modification, parent training & speech therapy.